

REMARKS

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner indicated that new independent claims 21 and 22 require further consideration and an updated search. The Applicant respectfully stresses that claims 21 and 22 are based on the allowable subject matter. In the Final Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 3-5 and 7-10 as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In the previous response, the Applicant amended claim 1 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 7, and added independent claims 21 and 22 to rewrite the allowable subject matter of dependent claims 3-5 (i.e., in the alternative or in combination) and dependent claim 8 into independent form. Despite these amendments, the Advisory Action stated that the amendments raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this position, because the amendments are based on allowable subject matter. For example, independent claim 21 cannot possibly raise any new issues by reciting “said step of creating a context model further comprises chunking, or trimming, or tagging, or a combination thereof.” Specifically, chunking was independently recited in allowable dependent claim 3, trimming was independently recited in allowable dependent claim 4, and tagging was independently recited in allowable dependent claim 5. As a result, the combination of these three features (i.e., chunking, trimming, and tagging) would also be allowable. For these reasons, the claims were previously in condition for allowance, yet the Advisory Action indicated a need for further consideration and/or search. By this paper, the Applicant hereby adds new dependent claims 23-26. These new claims do not add any new matter. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Interview Summary

On March 20, 2006, the Applicant's representative, Tait R. Swanson (Reg. No. 48,226), initiated a telephonic interview with the Examiner to discuss the Advisory Action. Although the Applicant's representative stressed that the previous amendments did not raise any new issues that would require further consideration and/or search, the parties did not reach an agreement. The Examiner reasoned that a brief search revealed a new reference, i.e., Devoino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,202,043), and this reference necessitated further consideration and/or search. In view of this new reference, the Applicant's representative emphasized that the Examiner should have re-opened prosecution and issued a new non-final office action. Again, the parties did not reach any agreement. After reviewing the Devoino reference, the Applicant's representative pointed out differences in the claims. Again, the parties did not reach an agreement. However, the Examiner acknowledged that trimming as disclosed in the Devoino reference may be different than trimming in the present application and claims. Finally, the Applicant's representative agreed to file a request for continued examination (RCE) along with an information disclosure statement to expedite prosecution and allowance of the present application.

Deficiencies of Devoino

With regard to the Devoino reference, the Applicant submits that "trimming" in the present application and claims relates to geometry, whereas the Devoino reference discloses trimming with regard to a process. For example, paragraph [015] of the present application states, for example, "'trim', as used herein, means to cut away parts of the associative copy of the geometry that are not needed for engineering analysis." In contrast, the Devoino reference discloses "a trimming routine for eliminating or simplifying an operation in a process" and "a trimming routing that generates a recommended list, in priority, of problem, to be solved to achieve the function trimming." Devoino et al., Abstract (emphasis added). For at least these reasons, the Applicant

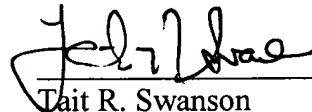
stresses that the Devoino reference fails to teach or suggest trimming as set forth in the present application and claims.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 21, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tait R. Swanson', written over a horizontal line.

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